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From: Occupational Health & Safety E-News
Sent: Mon 1/13/2014 6:07:21 PM
Subject: WV Agency Issues Shutdown Order to Freedom Industries

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===== FEATURE =====

GHS: Perception vs. Reality

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By Tom Jacques

I was having a conversation recently with the safety officer of a large health care facility about the looming Dec. 1, 2013, training deadline established by OSHA. The new training requirement mandates that employers provide employee training on the new GHS Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) labels, pictograms, etc. that will be available from chemical distributors during the next couple of years. I was astounded to hear him express how nervous he was that he would not be able to accomplish this task for his 4,000-plus employees by the deadline and by his perception that he would be in big trouble with OSHA.

More on this topic: Industrial Hygiene

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Many Oil & Gas Safety Pros Unaware of New H2S Standards

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===== NEWS UPDATE =====

WV Agency Issues Shutdown Order to Freedom Industries

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West Virginia state agencies have taken enforcement action against Freedom Industries, the chemical distributor involved in a Jan. 9 leak of at least 3,000 gallons of 4-Methylcyclohexane Methanol, known as "Crude MCHM," from one of its storage tanks. The chemical has contaminated the drinking water supply to Charleston, the state capital, and surrounding counties, affecting 300,000 residents who have been told not to drink or use their tap water except for flushing toilets. Water testing continued Sunday, and schools are closed.

CDC Marks 50th Anniversary of Surgeon General's Report

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Federal officials have marked the 50th anniversary of the seminal U.S. surgeon general's report on smoking and health, noting that millions of people have quit smoking since it was issued Jan. 11, 1964, but millions of Americans still smoke.

Red Cross Report Updates Haiti Earthquake Relief Efforts

<http://click.1105newsletters.com/?qs=f2fb6c486d43367400857373888ac4d5820b0907e23ea82b8586469f5100055afb48fcc4a5b7feb8>

A new American Red Cross report provides an update on the extent of relief provided to Haiti's residents four years after a major earthquake on Jan. 12, 2010. Rebuilding and recovery operations continue, and to date, more than 4.3 million Haitians have benefited from ARC services.

Workers Exposed to Electrical Hazards at CO Energy Company

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OSHA has cited a Colorado-based company, Black Hills Corp. (doing business as Black Hills Energy) for allegedly exposing workers to electrical hazards, according to a press release from their website. The company received two safety violations, one of which was willful, after an employee came in contact with an energized power line while doing repairs and sustained serious injuries.

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